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Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia March 19th 1868

Hon Hugh McCulloch
Secretary of the Treasury

Sir

I transmit herewith for your examination and such suggestions and modifications as you may think proper to make, a communication addressed to the Chairman of the Coinage committee of the House of Representatives in compliance with his request in relation to a system of minor coins accompanied by specimens of the proposed coinage, and a Bill containing the necessary provisions for carrying the same into effect.

The principal objection to the proposed coinage is the adding to the numerous varieties already in circulation & the resemblance of the cent to the three and five cent silver coins. But the advantages of the proposed issues, more than balance, in my opinion, the objection stated. The working of two different alloys, in the manufacture of minor coins is inconvenient and often troublesome, as the tin and Zinc composing

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with copper, the alloy for the bronze pieces, have to be kept entirely separate from gold and silver, when these metals are being manipulated for coinage. This is the chief advantage of making a cent of nickel-copper, and discontinuing the coinage of the ½ one & two cent bronze pieces.

The proposed cent is a very neat coin and if the coinage of the three and five cent silver coins is discontinued, as proposed, it will remove to a great extent the objection arising from its resemblance to those coins particularly the five cent or half dime.

The proposed series is perhaps the best system of minor coins that can be adopted, being of the same alloy, color, & devices and more difficult to counterfeit than any other known alloy

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
A R Linderman
Director

The specimens sent herewith are imperfect, the dies having been hurriedly prepared. These defects will be obviated in case the proposed series is adopted.